

Subject : Thomas Jefferson Peace medal Casady, Ida M.
[Eagle Rock, CA]

1929

2629 W. 77th St
Inglewood, Calif.
November 12, 1929

Mrs. Ida M. Casady
1764 3/4 Colorado Blvd.
Eagle Rock, Calif

Dear Mrs. Casady:

I am sending under separate cover a photograph of each side of the Jefferson medal and at this time will give you a short history of the medal as far as I know.

I found this medal in Wyoming in 1887 under a cluster of trees. As it is the custom of some Indian tribes to use the tree tops as a burial place, it has been my thought that the medal had been worn on a string around the neck of some chief whose body had been placed in these trees, this conclusion seems to be borne out by the suggestion of one who was quite well read on such matters, that the Lewis & Clarke expedition was sent out during Jefferson's administration. They made treaties with a number of Indian tribes, and no doubt presented a medal of the President to bind the treaty.

I have written to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D. C. about the medal, and they advise that while they have the original medal in silver of most of the Presidents, they have only copies in bronze of this medal, and as far as it known to them, this is the only Jefferson medal left.

Some years ago, I saw an article in the Saturday Evening Post or some other well know paper. I feel sure it was the Post. entitled, "The Little know Jefferson medal".

I have permission from John B. Kendrick, United States Senator from Wyoming, to use his name in vouching for the genuineness of my medal, as he has frequently seen it in my possession.

If I can give you any further information I shall be glad to do so.

Very sincerely yours

Mrs. Laura Raffan.

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Preserving as a National Memorial and Patriotic Shrine Monticello
 the home of Thomas Jefferson at Charlottesville, Virginia



"All my wishes end where I hope my days will end at Monticello"

Th. Jefferson

December 5, 1929

Dr. Howland Wood, Curator
 American Numismatic Society
 Broadway and 156th Street
 New York, New York

My dear Dr. Wood:

I beg to enclose herewith two photographs of both sides of a Jefferson Medal together with a copy of the letter giving its history. The letter and photographs were sent to us by Mrs. Ida M. Casady, 1764 3/4 Colorado Boulevard, Eagle Rock, California. She is very anxious to know something about the value of this medal.

On the other hand if it is an original medal presented to the Indians by Jefferson and if the history as stated in the letter is accurate, we should be more than pleased if someone could be persuaded or inspired to acquire it for Monticello.

We shall appreciate it very much if you will be kind enough to write Mrs. Casady and return to her the enclosed photographs. When you do so, may we have a copy of your letter.

Assuring you of our appreciation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Theodore Fred Kuper

TFK:AD

THEODORE FRED KUPER, National Director

December 6th 1929

Mrs. Ida M. Casady
1764 1/2 Colorado Blvd
Eagle Rock, Calif.

Dear Madam:

We are in receipt of a copy of a communication to you from a Mrs. Laura Raffan, together with photographs of a Jefferson Peace Medal, sent to us by Mr. Theodore F. Kuper, National Director of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation.

The Indian Peace Medal of Jefferson, is rare. It is worth from about one hundred to three-hundred-fifty dollars, according to supply and demand. This is the largest size. Three sizes were made. The middle size, although it might not bring quite as much as the larger one (your specimen) is rarer. We have three of the larger size medals in our collection. Lewis and Clarke took with them Jefferson and other medals so that some of these turn up from regions they visited. Some medals known as Indian Peace Medals, were issued in the name of all the Presidents ^{from} Washington to McKinly.

Yours very truly,

Curator.